REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3 and 9 are cancelled, claims 2, 4-8, and 10-23 remain in this application and, as amended herein, are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for the telephone interview held on June 26, 2008 in which the objection to the drawings and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, were discussed.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to. The Examiner indicated that "[t]he drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims." As pointed out during the telephone interview, the features set out in claims 2 and 8 are shown, e.g., in Fig. 11. Further, the features set out in claims 14 and 17 are shown, e.g., in Fig. 12. Therefore, the drawings do not require correction.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10-13 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 2, 4-5, 7-8, and 10-13 have been amended to correct same.

Claims 2, 4-8, 10-13, and 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Regarding claims 2, 4-8, and 10-13, as pointed out during the telephone interview, additional support for the subject matter of these claims is found, e.g., in the flowchart of Fig. 11 and in the description thereof on pages 28-32.

As to claims 22 and 23, as also discussed during the telephone interview, support for the claimed subject matter is found, e.g., in Figs. 4 and 5 and in the description thereof on pages 21-23 of the specification.

Applicant therefore submits that claims 2, 4-8, 10-13, and 22-23 are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to correct the informalities. Applicants therefore submit that claims 4 and 5 are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Turning now to the art rejections, claims 14, 17, and 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Soomro (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0002456). Applicants submit that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of Soomro.

Claim 14 recites:

> collision detecting means for *detecting whether the first beacon information collides with the second beacon information*; and
>
> interference informing means for *notifying the first control station of the first network of a beacon information collision detection result*.

(Emphasis added.) The relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest detecting whether first beacon information *collides with* second beacon information, and the relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest notifying a first control station of a first network *of a beacon information collision detection result*.

Rather, the relied on sections of Soomro describe providing collision-less data delivery using carrier sense multiple access with *collision avoidance* (CSMA/CA). (See ¶ [0021].) Namely, the relied on sections of the reference describe transmitting data *only when the channel is clear*, i.e., transmitting data only *at a time when no other node is transmitting*. The relied on sections of Soomro are not at all concerned with *collision detection*.

It follows, for at least the above reasons, that the relied on sections of Soomro do not disclose or suggest the

combination defined in claim 14 and therefore do not anticipate the claim.

Independent claims 17 and 21 each call for features similar to those set out in the above excerpt of claim 14. Each of these claims is therefore patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of Soomro for at least the reasons set out above regarding claim 14.

Independent claim 22 calls for:

> wherein upon detection of interference between at least two of the plurality of wireless networks, *a buffer frame period having a different length than the associated transmission frame period is set temporarily in one of the at least two wireless networks to prevent a collision between a first beacon signal transmitted by a first control station associated with the one of the at least two wireless networks and a second beacon signal transmitted by a second control station associated with another of the at least two wireless networks*, the *buffer frame period adjusting a length of an interval between the first beacon signal and the second beacon signal*.

(Emphasis added.) The relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest *a buffer frame period* having a different length than an associated transmission frame period, and the relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest that a buffer frame period is set temporarily in one of at least two wireless networks *to prevent a collision* between a first beacon signal transmitted by a first control station associated one wireless network and a second beacon signal transmitted by a second control station associated with another wireless network. Moreover, the relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest a buffer frame period *adjusting a length of an interval between* a first beacon signal and a second beacon signal.

Rather, the relied on sections of Soomro describe selectively *moving to another channel* to avoid interference. (See ¶ [0022].) The relied on sections of the publication are not at all concerned with *adjusting a length of an interval*

between beacon signals to prevent a collision between beacon signals, are not at all concerned with *using a buffer frame period to adjust a length of an interval* between beacon signals, and in fact are not at all concerned with *a buffer frame period*.

It follows, for at least these reasons, that the relied on sections of Soomro do not disclose or suggest the combination defined in claim 22 and therefore do not anticipate the claim.

Independent claim 23 calls for:

> wherein upon detection of interference between at least two of the plurality of wireless networks, *a buffer frame period having a different length than the associated transmission frame period is set temporarily in one of the at least two wireless networks to prevent competition between a first non-competitive transmission field of a first transmission frame period associated with the one of the at least two wireless networks and a second non-competitive transmission field of a second transmission frame period associated with another of the at least two wireless networks*, the *buffer frame period adjusting a positional relationship between a timing of the first transmission frame period and a timing of the second transmission frame period*.

(Emphasis added.) For at least the reasons described above regarding claim 22, the relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest *a buffer frame period* having a different length than an associated transmission frame period, and the relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest that a buffer frame period is set temporarily in one of at least two wireless networks *to prevent competition between* a first non-competitive transmission field of a first transmission frame period associated with one wireless network and a second non-competitive transmission field of a second transmission frame period associated with another wireless network, and the relied on sections of Soomro neither disclose nor suggest a buffer frame period *adjusting a positional relationship* between a

timing of a first transmission frame period and a timing of a second transmission frame period.

Claims 2, 8, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita (U.S. Patent No. 5,412,659) in view of Soomro. Applicants submit that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of the references.

Independent claim 2 calls for:

> buffer frame period setting means for *setting*, upon detection of interference between the given wireless network and the another wireless network, *a buffer frame period that is of different length than the transmission frame period to change the timing of the transmission frame period*[.]

(Emphasis added.) Neither the relied on sections of Fujita nor the relied on sections of Soomro disclose or suggest *setting a buffer frame period*, neither the relied on sections of Fujita nor the relied on sections of Soomro disclose or suggest a buffer frame period *that is of different length than a transmission frame period*, and neither the relied on sections of Fujita nor the relied on sections of Soomro disclose or suggest a buffer frame period *to change the timing of a transmission frame period*.

Rather, the relied on sections of Fujita describe a *buffer memory*. (See Fig.2 and col.2 ll.43-60.) The relied on sections of Fujita are not at all concerned with *a buffer frame period*.

Moreover, for at least the reasons described above regarding claims 14, 17, and 21-23, the relied-on sections of Soomro do not remedy these deficiencies in the relied-on sections of Fujita.

Independent claim 2 also calls for:

> the interference detecting means *detecting interference of the beacon information based on parameters obtained by receiving further beacon*

information received from the another wireless network.

(Emphasis added.) Neither the relied on sections of Fujita nor the relied on sections of Soomro disclose or suggest *detecting interference* of beacon information, and neither the relied on sections of Fujita nor the relied on sections of Soomro disclose or suggest detecting such interference *based on parameters obtained by receiving further beacon information* received from another wireless network.

The Examiner acknowledges that "Fujita fails to teach an interference detecting means ..." but contends that Soomro does. However, as described above regarding claims 14, 17, and 21-23, the relied on sections of Soomro are not at all concerned with *detecting* interference.

It follows, for at least these reasons, that neither the relied on sections of Fujita nor the relied on sections of Soomro, whether taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the apparatus set out in claim 2. Claim 2 is therefore patentably distinct and unobvious over the relied on sections of the references.

Independent claims 8 and 20 each call for features similar to those set out in the above excerpts of claim 2. Each of these claims is therefore patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of Fujita and Soomro for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's objections and the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e), 103(a), and 112, first and second paragraphs.

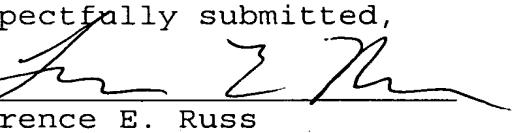
As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such

action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: June 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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